

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1 and 6-11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over D'Amico et al. in view of Bjorklund et al. and Turunen. The Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider this rejection.

This invention relates to a method for registering a device in a wireless network, the method comprising the steps of

a) asking a user through a user interface, whether he wants to install a new network or install the device on an existing network, and in case the user wants to install a new network,

b) asking the user to enter a PIN code, the entered PIN code becoming the PIN code of the new network,

c) generating an authentication key which becomes the authentication key of the new network, and

d) the device becoming the center controller of the new network, and in case the device is to be installed on an existing network, comprising an existing central controller,

e) asking the user to enter a PIN code,

f) checking by the existing central controller whether the entered PIN code corresponds to a PIN code of the existing network, and if such checking is positive, sending an authentication key of the existing network from the existing central controller to the device, and

g) storing the authentication key of the existing network by the device for use in authentication procedures between the device and the existing central controller.

Nowhere is the invention shown or suggested by the cited references.

The cited patent to D'Amico et al. teaches, in column 3, lines 4-10, a subscriber that communicates credentials to the network controller. The credentials comprise a portable unit serial number and a secret key code. The

portable unit serial number is a number that identifies the portable device. It is not a PIN code of the network.

D'Amico et al. does not disclose a method for registering a device in a wireless network comprising the step of asking the user, through a user interface, whether he wants to install a new network or to install the device on an existing network.

Furthermore, D'Amico et al. does not disclose the step of, in case the user wants to install the device on an existing network, asking the user to enter a PIN code. In fact, D'Amico et al. does not disclose the use of a PIN code of a network.

Therefore, D'Amico et al. does not disclose a method for registering a device in a wireless network comprising:

a) asking a user through a user interface, whether he wants to install a new network or install the device on an existing network, and in case the user wants to install a new network,

e) asking the user to enter a PIN code,
as specifically recited in Claim 1.

D'Amico et al. teaches, in column 5, lines 39-49, that the network controller sends a registration information signal to the portable unit comprising a subscriber identification number. The subscriber identification number is not an authentication key. D'Amico et al. does not teach the generation of an authentication key and the sending of an authentication key of the network to the portable device. Therefore, D'Amico et al. does not disclose the steps of:

f) checking by said existing central controller whether the entered PIN code corresponds to a PIN code of the existing network, and if such checking is positive, sending an authentication key of the existing network from the existing central controller device and

g) storing said authentication key of the existing network by said device for use in authentication procedures between said device and said existing central controller,

as specifically recited in Claim 1.

The cited reference to Bjorklund et al. discloses a method and system for key distribution and authentication in a data communication network of WLAN type. Even if the teachings of Bjorklund et al. were to be incorporated into D'Amico et al., as envisioned by the Examiner, the combination would still not teach the instant invention, since nowhere do either D'Amico et al. or Bjorklund et al. teach or suggest:

a) the step of asking the user through a user interface whether he wants to install a new network in a wireless network or install a device on an existing wireless network, and

b) the step of, in case the user wants to install the device on an existing network, asking the user to enter a PIN code,

as specifically recited in Claim 1. Neither D'Amico et al. nor Bjorklund et al. teach the use of a PIN code of the network.

The cited reference to Turunen discloses a method and apparatus for sending a security key to a mobile host for use in Internet access. According to column 5, lines 49-51, Turunen discloses a home network's home agent provided with a GSM terminal which enables the home agent to connect wirelessly to the GSM network. According to column 5, lines 42-46, if a mobile host subscribing to the corporate LAN and to the cellular telephone network leaves the coverage area of the corporate LAN and enters that of the cellular telephone network (either GSM or hotspot LAN), the host will deregister with the former while registering with the latter.

According to column 5, lines 51-59 of Turunen, whenever the mobile host is turned on and registered to the GSM network, a request is sent from the mobile host to the home network's home agent for transmission of an Internet authentication key. This request is made using the GSM network's short message service (SMS). Transmission occurs via the GSM network's home agent and wireless channel's coupling the mobile host and the home network's home agent to the GSM network's home agent.

According to column 5, lines 51-54, Turunen discloses a method for registering a device (the mobile host) in a wireless network (the GSM cellular telephone network). The method comprises the steps of

Turning the mobile device on,
registering to the GSM network, and
sending a request from the mobile host to the home network's home agent for transmission of an Internet authentication key.

Nowhere does Turunen show or suggest the step of
asking a user whether he wants to install a new network or to install a device on an existing network,
as specifically recited in Claim 1.

It is therefore clear that Turunen does not disclose a method for registering a device in a wireless network comprising the step of asking a user, through a user interface, whether he wants to install a new network or install the device on an existing network. Furthermore, Turunen does not disclose a step of asking a user to enter a PIN code of the network.

It is therefore clear that even if the teachings of the three references were to be combined, the invention as defined by Claim 1 would not be obtained.

Claims 2-5 have previously been cancelled.

Claims 6-8 are dependent from Claim 1, and set forth further advantageous features. Applicants submit that Claims 6-8 are patentable as their parent Claim 1.

Claim 9 contains recitations similar to those contained in Claim 1. More specifically, Claim 9 recites the steps of:

asking a user through a user interface whether he wants to install a new network or to install the device on an existing network, or in case the user wants to install a new network,

asking the user to enter a PIN code, said entered PIN code becoming the PIN code of the new network and the device becoming the central controller of the network and

in case the device is to be installed on an existing network comprising a central controller asking the user to enter a PIN code, the device sending the PIN code and a device identifier to the central controller of the existing network.


Nowhere do the cited references taken either singly or in combination show or suggest the invention defined by Claim 9. For reasons set forth above regarding the patentability of Claim 1, the Applicants submit that the invention as defined by Claim 9 is patentable over the cited references.

Claims 10 and 11 are dependent from Claim 9 and set forth further advantageous features. The Applicants submit that Claims 10 and 11 are patentable as their parent Claim 9.

The Applicants submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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